

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T ATHENS 2843

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, GR

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE NATO SUMMIT

REF: STATE 081406

1. OVER THE WEEKEND I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS ABOUT THE PROSPECTIVE NATO SUMMIT. I DREW ON THE TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL IN EXPLAINING OUR POSITION AND TRYING TO ENLIST GREATER GOG UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR THE SUMMIT IDEA.

2. BITSIOS SAID HE APPRECIATED KNOWING OUR VIEWS AND SAID HE WOULD TALK TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FURTHER ABOUT THE SUBJECT: HE SAID THAT HIS OWN INSTINCTS WERE STRONGLY AGAINST THE IDEA OF A NATO SUMMIT MEETING NOW, AND AS I KNEW, IT WAS A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT MOMENT FOR PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND THE GREEK GOVERNMENT TO BECOME SO SPECTACULARLY INVOLVED IN NATO AFFAIRS. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THE GOG HAD MADE NO FINAL DECISION AS TO WHAT ITS POSITION WOULD BE WITH RESPECT TO SUCH A SUMMIT AND THAT THEY WOULD KEEP AN OPEN MIND FOR THE PRESENT AND BE PREPARED TO CONSULT WITH US AND OTHER ALLIES FURTHER ABOUT IT.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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